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USA Batteries Act

Summary:

This bill would repeal the Superfund chemical tax implemented in the IIJA, which affects substances used in lead battery manufacturing.

Background:

The Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act reinstated the Superfund chemical tax on 42 substances at twice the previously enacted tax rates. Lead oxide, antimony, and sulfuric acid are primarily used as inputs in lead batteries which are used in vehicles as well as for defense, logistics, telecommunications, and energy generation.

A truly sustainable energy source, 99% of lead batteries are recycled for use in new batteries or other products. The lead battery industry has a manufacturing capacity of more than 165 GWh and is comprised of many small businesses employing 25,000 Americans across 38 states with an annual economic impact of \$23.6 billion.

This tax hike on American battery manufacturers reduces America's competitiveness and kills good manufacturing jobs. At a time when small businesses are reeling from supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, and higher prices, this unnecessary tax is detrimental to the industry. Repealing this tax ensures this industry can continue to thrive without facing stiffened competition from foreign producers who have a competitive advantage because they aren't subject to the tax.

What this bill does:

The USA Batteries Act will eliminate a tax that gives foreign manufacturers an unfair advantage on the cost of raw materials and undermines the purpose of the infrastructure bill which was created to support domestic manufacturing.

If the tax is allowed to stand it will negatively impact the 25,000 American workers who make and recycle lead batteries and take pride in the fact that their product is the most recycled consumer product in the U.S.

To co-sponsor this legislation, please contact: will.smethers@mail.house.gov